## Message Text

SECRET

PAGE 01 STATE 052218 ORIGIN NODS-00

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 /001 R

DRAFTED BY NEA:WBRUBECK:SKG APPROVED BY NEA:HHSAUNDERS NSC:WQUANDT S/S-O:TMARTIN

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TO AMEMBASSY CAIRO NIACT IMMEDIATE
INFO AMEMBASSY TEL AVIV IMMEDIATE
WHITE HOUSE IMMEDIATE

SECRETSTATE 052218

**NODIS** 

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: PGOV XF US

SUBJECT: SADAT MESSAGE TO BEGIN

REF: CAIRO 6412

1. WE HAVE GONE BACK OVER LIMITED RECORD OF CAMP DAVID MEETING AND MEMCONS FROM DEC 16-17 CONVERSATIONS WITH BEGIN. BEGIN DID SAY IN DECEMBER THAT ISRAEL'S "STATE SOVEREIGNTY" WOULD NOT EXTEND BEYOND 1967 BORDERS. HOWEVER, THIS STATEMENT WAS MADE IN CONTEXT OF DISCUSSION OF HIS PROPOSALS FOR THE WEST BANK/GAZA AND FOR SINAI. IN THE CASE OF WEST BANK/GAZA, THAT IS, IT WAS MADE WITH APPARENT REFERENCE TO STATUS OF TERRITORIES DURING THE FIVE-YEAR PERIOD OF THE PROPOSAL, WHICH ALSO PROVIDED FOR REVIEW AT SECRET

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END OF PERIOD. BEGIN ALSO SAID THAT THE QUESTION OF SOVEREIGNTY IN THE WEST BANK/GAZA WOULD BE LEFT UNRESOLVED, AGAIN REFERRING, PRESUMABLY, TO THE FIVE-YEAR PERIOD. BY THE SAME TOKEN, HE MADE CLEAR THAT HE WOULD NOT ACKNOWLEDGE ANY OTHER CLAIM TO SOVEREIGNTY. IN CASE OF SINAI, ALTHOUGH ACKNOWLEDGEMENT OF EGYPTIAN SOVEREIGNTY WAS PRESUMABLY

LINKED TO OTHER ELEMENTS OF HIS PROPOSAL, BEGIN WAS CLEARLY PREPARED IN A SETTLEMENT TO ACCEPT INTERNATIONAL BOUNDARY, I.E., 1967 LINES.

- 2. THIS OBVIOUSLY LEAVES A CONSIDERABLE AREA OF AMBIGUITY. OUR FEELING HAS BEEN THAT IT IS PREFERABLE NOT TO PRESS FOR CLARIFICATION SINCE THAT WOULD PROBABLY RESULT, AT THIS TIME, IN A MORE RESTRICTIVE EXPLANATION. A MORE PRECISE ANSWER, IN ANY EVENT, WILL DEPEND ON THE OUTCOME OF CURRENT NEGOTIATIONS ON BASIC ISSUES AND THAT IS A PREFERABLE WAY TO PURSUE THE SUBJECT. FROM REVIEW OF RECORD, APPRECIATE HOW SADAT UNDERSTOOD WHAT WAS SAID AT CAMP DAVID. WE WOULD ONLY URGE THAT IT IS PREFERABLE HE NOT REFER TO THAT CONVERSATION AND RAISE ISSUE WITH BEGIN AT THIS POINT SINCE IT WOULD PROBABLY ONLY PRODUCE AN ARGUMENT ABOUT THE MEANING OF THE BEGIN PROPOSALS.
- 3. THAT IS THE BEST WE CAN DO. AS YOU WILL PROBABLY RECALL, STATEMENT WAS MADE AT CAMP DAVID WITHOUT FULL EXPLANATION OF CONTEXT OF BEGIN REMARKS. THEREFORE, WE SUGGEST YOU EXPLAIN TO KAMEL AND SADAT PRETTY CANDIDLY AND HOPE THAT, FOR IMMEDIATE PRACTICAL PURPOSES, THEY WILL SHARE OUR JUDGMENT. VANCE

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NNN

<sup>\*\*\*</sup> Current Handling Restrictions \*\*\* n/a

<sup>\*\*\*</sup> Current Classification \*\*\* SECRET

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